Summary
Protection Cluster Analysis of the Belg Assessment Findings

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1. Background

The effects of the El Niño induced drought, as per the findings of the Meher assessments, were documented in the first 2016 Humanitarian Requirements Document (HRD) along with the estimated budget requirements needed to respond to the situation. The negative consequences of the drought which already put the lives and livelihoods of many in dire situation was worsened by the occurrence of heavy rains which resulted in flash floods. Many protection concerns have also been identified to arise across different sectors as a result of the current disaster.

The Belg assessments conducted in June 2016 presented findings that will serve as evidence for the revision of the 2016 HRD. During this round of assessment, a standalone Protection Checklist was developed and used for the first time to capture protection concerns in a systematic manner which was not the case during the Meher assessments.

While the Belg assessments have identified positive practices in the context of child protection and gender based violence in some of the assessed Regions, some protection gaps were evident as well. The following analysis briefly presents protection concerns that are mainly focused on children and women as well as general protection issues. The concerns were captured by various teams who participated in the Belg assessments conducted in six Regions; Afar, Amhara, Somali, Oromiya, SNNPR and Tigray Regions.

2. Meaningful access to services

Afar
- Services are very limited and are not accessible to vulnerable groups such as girls, women, persons with physical disability, the elderly, chronic illness, blind, hard of hearing, mental disability
- There is difficulty in terms of accessing basic services like WaSH.
- WaSH facilities such as separate latrines for men and women are lacking in schools and health facilities.
- Within the health context, services related to GBV are not sufficient, not free and health workers lack training on confidentiality.

SNNPR
- Humanitarian assistance is not adequate and not distributed based on needs.
- Access to food distribution sites is difficult since delivery has been made on cluster basis i.e. at Woreda or Kebele levels requiring beneficiaries to walk long distance to receive food.

Amhara
- Services do not consider the needs of disabled persons.
- There is lack of information on locations and times of food distribution.
- Participation of the community is not significant within the humanitarian context
- There is unfair or uneven distribution of assistances which does not take into account the needs of the poor.
- Some of the food distribution sites are not accessible for women and other vulnerable groups. Women beneficiaries walk 4-5 hours to get food at Wendach distribution site at Gidan, which put girls & women at risk of GBV.

### Tigray

- Services are accessible for girls and women with limitations for persons with reduced mobility and non-mobility related disabilities.
- Children from poor families, disabled children, children living with HIV, children living with disabled caregivers and with elderly are excluded from services like food distribution and educational opportunities.

### Oromiya

- In East and West Harage Zones accessibility of services to girls, women and persons with disabilities is minimal.
- Gaps were reported in terms of the amount of support distributed through the humanitarian response.
- In addition, it was explained that the amount of relief support is too heavy for the vulnerable to carry.
- Woreda Women and Children Affairs offices work on identification of the most at risk population such as people with disabilities, HIV/AIDS, pregnant and lactating women, elderly people. Various sectors have their share of responsibility as well in identifying and taking into account the needs of vulnerable groups and those with special needs when responding to the emergency.

### 3. Child Protection

#### Afar

- Among the 20 visited Woredas in 14 Woredas, children have been separated from their respective parents or usual caregivers due to the ongoing drought and flood emergency.
- Children live on their own, live with other children, their employers, in foster care arrangement, clan group or in the streets.
- Children show negative behavioural changes which are attributed to the drought.
- Increase in the number of children who are engaged in hard labour was identified.
- Children are in general victims of harmful traditional practices like early marriage, FGM etc. which trend may increase in disaster situations.
- Learning spaces are not child friendly mainly for adolescent girls. In other words, it is difficult for girls to access safe and convenient facilities at school to dispose used menstrual management materials.

**SNNPR**

- Children migrate to urban areas to engage in activities and support the family with the income gained.
- There was dramatic decline in attendance and escalated school dropout from December 2015 to February 2016 particularly in lowland areas and areas that have higher food insecurity. As there is increase in the migration of children to urban areas, this situation may be linked to the increased school dropout rate.
- No separate latrine for boys and girls at schools and men and women at health institutions in all Woredas assessed.
- Relevant government offices in the Zonal and Woreda levels have no trained staff on Women and Children protection and management of GBV in Hadya and Kembata Tembaro.

**Amhara**

- Separation of children from parents, families and caregivers reported due to inability of parents to take care of their children due to the drought.
- Children migrate to the neighbouring Kebeles as a result of the disaster. Some live on their own while some live with other children, extended families or their employers.
- Children are engaged in hard labour to cope with the disaster situation and to sustain their lives as well as to support their families. Some of the activities children engage themselves in include; transportation of goods, construction works such as carrying construction materials, domestic labor, serving in restaurants and coffee houses, farm works and Opal mining.
- In some of the visited Zones, there are schools where the latrines for boys and girls are not separated.
- Violent behaviour (including petty crimes and substance abuse) & stress on children living in drought and flood affected communities and on separated children have been reported

**Tigray**

- Behavioral change noticed among children and adolescents girls and boys because of the droughts

**Oromiya**
- Girls and boys are separated from their parents/ usual caregivers and live in different forms of care arrangement including with extended family members, family friends, alone or on the streets because of the depletion of household livelihood.
- Parents also leave their children at home when they go to search for water and pasture, which condition leave children to become heads of households with no adult supervision.
- Children are engaged in dangerous activities including trafficking of drugs, domestic labour, factory works, restaurants and coffee houses, transportation of people and goods and cattle keeping.
- Heightened psychosocial distress has been reported since the beginning of the drought.
- Children living with HIV and AIDS, children with disability and from poorest quintile households are also identified as excluded in the relief service in the current emergency response.
- Risk of early marriage is increasing in relation with the current drought as the loss of productivity forces families to arrange marriage for the purpose of dowry as well as to ensure better life for their children.
- Increased risk of abduction and sexual harassment is also reported in some Woredas of Bale and Arsi and this risk will increase as a result of the current disaster situation since girl children walk long distance in search of water and fire wood.
- Young girls lack the privacy to use latrines, as schools do not provide separate latrines for boys and girls.
- Case management services are weakly structured and there is no proper coordination put in place among key service providers and stakeholders.

**Somali**

- Students in Tuliguleed Woredas were forced to discontinue their education due to the ethnic conflict between Oromo and Somali community along their borders. The displaced Somali communities are now living in IDPs in Babile (Halobiyo) and Gabagabo kebele of Tuliguleed Woredas.
- IDP hosting schools are now overcrowded due to arrival of the displaced students. Some of the displaced students are now taking classes under tree.

### 4. Gender Based Violence

**Afar**
- There have been reports of Gender Based Violence (GBV) against girls and women since the emergency in the visited Woredas. The increase in GBV incident was reported to be due to lack of NGOs and CBOs intervention in the respective community.
- In addition, “sexual favours in exchange for food or other goods, forced marriage and psychological/emotional distress” have been identified to have increased since the beginning of the drought.
- WaSH facilities such as separate latrines for men and women are rarely available in education and health facilities.

**SNNPR**
- People travel a maximum of 25 Kms to fetch water for household purposes. This may put girls and women at risk of GBV.
- Relevant offices at all Zonal and Woreda levels have no trained staff on management of GBV.

**Amhara**
- Occurrence of GBV and sexual violence related incidents reported while girls are on the way to fetch water & collect fire woods.
- Migrant girls are raped, sexually harassed and are deceived for better economic conditions in addition to forcefully being married.
- Despite the existence of governmental and non-governmental agencies involved in GBV case management, such efforts are not well coordinated and effective.
- GBV issues remain unnoticed and incidents remain unreported due to family negotiation and other factors which were not disclosed.

**Tigray**
- There is no separate documentation for GBV cases. In addition, GBV data collection is very limited and no systematic analysis.

**Oromiya**
- There is neither sufficient information nor organized data available on GBV.
- Lack of GBV focused/separate services at the health facilities is a challenging issue for GBV survivors
- Women and girls are not safe to move freely in the community and they are subjected to rape and abduction.
- No special service/safe place across the Zones except in East Showa Zone to provide proper physical and psychological care for GBV survivors.

**5. Displacement**
**Afar**
- A total of 11,3551 population in 14 Woredas were affected by flood during the Belg season.
- Around 44,000 people are expected to be displaced in Afar.

**SNNP**
- More than 75,000 people were affected and 40,000 people were displaced in 14 Woredas in April- May 2016 flooding. 14,386 people are still in displacement as of 16 June 2016.
- The majority of the displaced population are traumatized.

**Amhara**
- The region anticipates that at least 95,916 people will be forced to be displaced from their homes due to flooding.
- It is anticipated that 95,916 IDPs will be unable to access food and 50% of these IDPs will lose shelter and household items.

**Tigray**
- The snow storm and heavy rain that occurred in Feb and May 2016 respectively forced some of the drought affected population into displacement. In addition, around 80 persons were displaced due to flood that happened in June 2016.

**Oromiya**
- Around 5777 HHs have been displaced due to flood.

**Somali**
- Overflow of the Wabishabele River has caused huge human displacement and resulted in the disruption of the schooling in the Shabele Zone leading to student dropouts and destruction of education material and equipment’s.
- Around 384,000 IDPs have been identified in the Zones visited; Fafan, Afder, Sitti, Shabelle, Nogob, Liben, Dolo and Korahey. These IDPs are displaced due to drought, floods and conflict. Large number of displacement has however occurred due to drought.
- IDPs in the visited Zones are living in dire situation without proper shelter, food and basic human services. The absence of minimum emergency services i.e. water, shelter, food and essential medical drugs and basic social services expose the IDPs, especially women and children, to increased levels of vulnerability.